

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the paragraph (Abstract) beginning at page 21, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

ABSTRACT

A reed valve (~~29~~) and a valve retainer (~~42~~) for the reed valve (~~41~~) are provided at a discharge port (~~29~~) of a compression mechanism (~~20~~) that compresses fluid. The valve retainer (~~42~~) has a polymer actuator (~~50~~) at an end part of a valve fixing part (~~42a~~) for fixing the reed valve (~~41~~). The polymer actuator (~~50~~) expands or ~~contracts~~ contracts in length to change a fixed length (~~A~~) of the reed valve (~~41~~), thereby changing ~~the~~ a rigidity of the reed valve (~~41~~). This attains appropriate control of responsiveness of the reed valve (~~41~~) according to the volume.